

A NEW COMMISSION CREATED.

SENATOR FASSETT'S AQUEDUCT BILL PASSED BY THE LEGISLATURE

A LIVELY DEBATE ALL ALONG THE LINE—SEN. ATOR MURPHY ALSO PRESENTS A BILL—MR. CANTOR THINKS THERE'S A "DEAL"—

MR. PLATT DENOUNCES THE FA-
VER-THE BILL IN THE AS-
SEMBLY—PROVISIONS OF
THE NEW ACT.
[BY TELEGRAPHIC DESPATCH.]
Albany, July 20.—The members of the Republi-
can majority in the Legislature have responded
to the demand of the citizens of New-York that
the present Aqueduct Commission should be abol-
ished and a new one created in which the city's
officers should have a large representation. The
taxpayers of New-York must thank the Republican
Legislature which appointed a committee to in-
vestigate the conduct of the Aqueduct Com-
missioners for this wholesome change. If it had not
been for the evidence laboriously collected by the
Senate Committee in regard to the acts of the

The conference was held late last night in the room in the Kenmore Hotel of Senator Hendricks, of Syracuse, one of the members of the committee, which was attended by Senator Fassett and Senator Van Cott, the other two Republican members of the committee, and by Senators Sloan and Kellogg, Assemblymen Hamilton, Crosby and other prominent Republican members. Nearly all rep-

nt were members of a sub-committee appointed by the Republican caucus to manage affairs in the Legislature in emergencies when a caucus could not be held. Senator Eugene Henderson was

Sen. Codd unanimously advised their Republican associates to pass a bill removing the Aqueduct Commissioners. It was deemed judicious to keep the decision of the conference a secret. Assemblyman Hamilton, of New-York, had already drawn up a bill for the removal of the Aqueduct Commissioners, and it was adopted.

Before the Senate met this morning the Republican Senators as fast as they arrived in the Senate Chamber were informed of the plan of the sub-committee, and they all agreed to support such a measure. Senator Fassett learned, however, that the bill would be called for by the Governor, and he declined to be named. Senator Murphy intended to be called to order.

On behalf of the Democrats a bill for the removal of the Aequeduct Commission, and therefore consent to him and said that while the Republicans would not permit the passage of a measure intended to aid the Democratic party, they had no objection to its being advanced to a third reading. Senator Cantor saw the two Senators talk and instantly suggested that he should move a

Senator Murphy's bill provided for the appoint-

for an Aqueduct Commission, consisting of Mayor Hewitt, Controller Myers, Commissioner Newton, and the three City Fathers, President of the Board of Aldermen and three free citizens. He offered it as soon as the Senate had been called to order, and the Republicans permitted him to advance it to the order of a third reading, when Senator Fassett suddenly moved that the bill of the Republicans should be substituted for it. This abolished the present Aqueduct Commission and substituted a board composed of Mayor Hewitt, Controller Myers, Commissioner Newton, of the Department of Public Works, and three free citizens—two Republicans and one Democrat, to be appointed by Mayor Hewitt. Moreover, the act gave the Mayor of New-York and the Governor authority to remove on charge the Aqueduct Commissioners—a power it is said, which they do not now possess.

CANTOR AS THE BOLD SPOKESMAN.

Senator Cantor, upon hearing the bill read, perceived that three County Democracy men, namely, Mayor Hewitt, Controller Myers and Commissioner

tion, would be members of the old ad hoc commission, and that Tammany Hall would have no representatives. Perhaps this large bestowal of patronage upon the County Democracy might prevent the dissolution of that organization, now in progress, and seriously embarrass Tammany Hall in her efforts to elect Hugh J. Grant as Mayor. Senator Cantor therefore angrily denounced Senator Murphy as having acted in collusion with the republicans.

Senator Murphy, the County Democracy leader, who, he it said, desires the County Democracy's nomination for Sheriff in New-York, affected to be highly indignant at this accusation of Senator Cantor. He might have been engaged in a little bit of theatricals with Senator Fassett, but why have he brutally brought forth into the light? Senator Murphy said that he had never heard a more

useful statement than that made by Senator Fawcett. He had not made any alliance with the Republicans. That must be clear to every one, and his bill radically differed from theirs. Then, to save his loyalty, Senator Murphy roundly denounced the Republicans for partisanship in providing in their bill that two of the new Ageducation commissioners should be Republicans. The Republicans had better trust to Mayor Hewitt's sense of fairness. Doubtless he would appoint some Republicans as members of the Board.

Senator Fassett laughed, and said he was grieved to hear that the Democrats were so much

"He was not," angrily replied Senator Murphy to Senator Fassett, who smiled. Senator Fassett then said to Senator Cantor:

Why, our bill was recommended by the New-York newspapers to-day and by ex-Mayor Grace of New-York last night. We have not made President Foster of the Board of Aldermen a member of the Aqueford Commission, because we fear that all good character on the Board of Aldermen will not be of as good character as Mr. Foster. As for the other members, in the Commission it is a

efficient reply to say that in 1884 the Republicans polled 100,000 votes in New-York and the Democrats only 131,000 votes. Comparing those votes the Republicans should have more than two members of the Commission out of

ten members. We might well claim three members, but we do not do so. We recognize the right of the Mayor, the Controller and the Commissioner of Public Works to be members of this Aqueduct Commission, and we give the Democratic voters of New York ample representation.

PLEADING FOR DEMOCRATIC CONTROL
Senator Pierce, Democrat, a member of the Assets Committee, endeavored to save the Aqueduct Commissioners. He said:
"Mr. Chairman, this seems to me questionable legislation. There are certainly members of that Aqueduct Commission

where there is no evidence. I undertake to say some of the members of that Aqueduct Board are free from wrongdoing. Either of these bills throws a cloud upon this reputation. We are all influenced by public clamor. The governor himself has recommended that some action be taken. If we are going to act at all, we should give the power of appointment absolutely to the Mayor. I am in favor of Senator Murphy's bill, if any is to be passed. I

believe that Mayor Hewitt will act wisely. It is not unlikely he will appoint some Republicans if we pass the Murphy bill.

Senator McNaughton, Democrat, another member of the special committee, also supported Senator Murphy's bill. He said:

I regret that Senator Fassett said anything about Governor Hill's relations with a certain Aqueduct contractor. That will be cleared up as the haze about the \$50,000 case was cleared up by Judge Parker. Aside from that, I believe the citizens of New-York think the Aqueduct

mission is an inharmonious body. The Aqueduct is the most important work now in progress in the world. The future happiness and prosperity of New-York depend on it. Millions more are to be spent. A cloud hangs over it now. There should be a Board beyond suspicion. It does not follow that Mayor Hewitt would not appoint some of the present Aqueduct Commissioners. The